

# NCVHS Clinical Terminologies

Eric Mays

Apelon

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# About Apelon

- Provide terminology software and services
- Content management and creation services
- TDE – description logic based terminology authoring
- DTS – terminology server software with localization component
- Customers include CDC, NCI, NLM, VA, AMA, KP, CAP, Dictaphone, Eclipsys, Philips

# Desirable Features

- Multi-hierarchies
- Compositional definitions
  - Reference taxonomies
  - Formal semantics
- Change management
- Distinguish interface characteristics

# Evaluation

- NCI-Th, NDF-RT, SNOMED-CT all have or are adopting necessary features
  - All need more practical experience (maturity)
- LOINC, UMDNS need improvement
- Licensing issues need to be resolved
- Inclusive process of NDF-RT needs to be replicated

# Subsets

- Practical considerations dominate
- Interoperability not compromised
- Marketplace will address
- Remove barriers to innovation
  - IP restrictions

# Mapping

- Reasonable from clinical terminologies to established administrative terminologies (ICD9, CPT, DRG, APC)
- Common reference taxonomies a better approach in clinical terminologies
  - Chemicals – labs, drugs
  - Organisms – labs, drugs, diseases

# Recommended Actions

- Recognize core clinical terminologies
  - Non-overlapping
  - A small number (4 or 5)
- Promote harmonization of core models
- Promote common reference taxonomies
  - Increase interoperability
  - Lower maintenance costs
- Identify gaps and enhance core sets